

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for detecting a molecule in vivo or in vitro comprising:
a light source, comprising near infrared light emissions;
a sample holder, comprising an uptake channel, having an activated matrix therein,
and an analysis target area therein;
an optical system comprising a lens; and
a detector.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the light source is a laser diode.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the optical system comprises a fiber optic lens and a bandpass filter.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the detector comprises a photodiode coupled to an LCD.

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11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the sample holder comprises a tip having an enclosed analysis target area comprises an area which is composed of a solid phase within the channel having physical barriers on opposite sides of the area .

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the sample holder analysis target area comprises a tip which is an area free of solid phase and is not enclosed.

13-14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

a reservoir extending from a side of the uptake channel having a diameter larger than a diameter of the uptake channel; and,

an extension from uptake channel into the reservoir wherein a bubble, for analysis, is formed on an end of the extension.

16. (New) Apparatus for detecting a molecule in vivo or in vitro comprising:

a light source, comprising near infrared light emissions;

a sample holder, comprising an area having an analysis target area and an open ended tube, having a diameter smaller than the area, inserted through the area wherein a live animal may enter a first side of the tube and exit a second side of the tube;

an optical system comprising a lens; and

a detector.

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